

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /064 W

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R 011005Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5523

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 2816

E.O. 11652\$ GDS

TAGS: PINT, AG

SUBJECT: ALGERIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: LEBJAOUI ANNOUNCES  
CANDIDACY

1. ON NOV. 29, WESTERN EMBASSY IN ALGIERS RECEIVED IN ALGERIAN MAIL BRIEF TRACT ANNOUNCING CANDIDACY OF LONGTIME ALGERIAN OPPOSITIONIST MOHAMED LEBJAOUI FOR ALGERIAN PRESIDENCY IN ELECTIONS TO TAKE PLACE DEC. 10. TRACT ISSUED IN NAME OF MOUVEMENT ALGERIEN DES FORCES POPULAIRES ET DE L'ARMEE POUR LA DEMOCRATIE ET L'UNION MAGHREBINE (MAFPADUM) AND SIGNED BY COMMANDANT SI HAOUES, CAPTAIN AKLI, LIEUTENANT ABDELGHANI, SI OUALI AND SI KHALED. DOCUMENT ASSERTS THAT MAFPADUM HAS SUPPORT IN ALGERIAN ARMY AND THAT LEBJAOUT'S CANDIDACY HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM AMONG PEOPLE AND WITH PANIC BY "DIGNITARIES OF ILLEGAL POWER AND ILLEGITIMATE HEIRS OF PUTSCH OF JUNE 19, 1965." DOCUMENT ALSO REJECTS NEW ALGERIAN CONSTITUTION AS "VULGAR SCRAP OF PAPER" AND CONDEMNS BOUMEDIENE'S PERSONAL POWER AND FRAUD WHICH LATEST POPULAR CONSULTATION REPRESENTED.

2. COMMENT: LEBJAOUI'S "CANDIDACY" HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AMONG DIPLOMATS AND JOURANLISTS FOR SOME TIME HERE. WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT EITHER HE OR HIS UNPRONOUNCEABLE ORGANIZATION HAVE ANY SUPPORT IN  
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ALGERIAN ARMY OR ELSEWHERE IN POPULATION. WE WILL

ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP FURTHER INFORMATION ON MAFPADUM'S  
SIGNIFICANCE AND POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH OPPOSITION  
WHICH COALESCED AROUND MARCH 9 ANTI-REGIME APPEAL TO  
ALGERIAN PEOPLE.

3. OF GROUP SIGNING TRACT, EMBASSY HAS BIO INFORMATION  
ONLY SI HAOUES. HE IS 66-YEAR OLD MEMBER OF  
INDEPENDENCE WAR ALGERIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF REVOLUTION  
(CNRA) AND WAS SERVING AS FLN REPRESENTATIVE IN  
YUGOSLAVIA IN 1962. NO INFORMATION ON HIM SINCE THAT TIME.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ALGIER02816  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760445-0462  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALGERIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: LEBJAOUI ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY  
**TAGS:** PINT, AG, (LEBJAOUI, MOHAMED)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006